

Policy & Procedure Title Provider Eligibility for Publicly Funded Vaccine Programs Issuing Date 7/17/2012

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Approval Authority

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# **Policy Summary**

The purpose of the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program is to increase access to immunizations at providers other than the local health department in order to allow eligible children to remain in their medical home whenever possible. Specific criteria have been established for providers electing to enroll in the VFC program. This policy also applies to any other publicly funded vaccine program enrollment with the Immunization Division.

#### **Policy Statement**

Specific guidelines are described in this policy to use in determining a provider's eligibility to enroll in a publicly funded vaccine program in the state of Indiana.

#### **Provider Eligibility Criteria**

To enroll in a publicly funded vaccine program, the provider must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Be a licensed medical provider with prescriptive authority in the State of Indiana.
- Providers with prescriptive authority in the State of Indiana include physicians, advanced practice nurses and physicians assistants.
- Pharmacists do not have prescriptive authority in the State of Indiana are not eligible to enroll as a VFC provider.
- Serve individuals who are eligible to receive vaccines through the VFC program, or any publicly funded vaccine program.
- Possess a storage unit in compliance with the Storage Unit Certification requirements contained in the Storage and Handling- Storage Unit Requirements (E-VI-B2) policy.
- Ability to receive vaccine shipments and appropriately store each vaccine immediately upon delivery.
- Have no employees or staff reported on the "List of Excluded Individuals and Entities" as administered
  and published by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Office of the Inspector General
  (OIG).



## **Provider Types**

Indiana permits both traditional and non-traditional providers to enroll in publicly funded vaccine programs. Traditional providers are providers who have traditionally provided immunization services, such as family practice, general practice and pediatric offices. Traditional providers participating in the VFC program must offer all ACIP recommended vaccines.

Nontraditional providers are providers who serve specific populations, such as adolescents or newborns, and whom have not traditionally provided immunization services to their clients. The Immunization Division has the discretion to allow nontraditional providers to limit their participation in a publicly funded vaccine program to specific vaccines recommended for the specific population served by the provider.

Examples of Specialty Providers and Appropriate Limitations

Family Planning Clinics, Long Term Juvenile Correctional facilities, School-based health clinics: Limited to select adolescent vaccinations, such as HPV, Tdap, MCV, Hep A and Hep B

Birthing Hospitals: limited to birth dose of Hep B

Birthing Centers: limited to adult Tdap



### **References & Resources**

Immunization Provider Enrollment Request (State Form 54048)